

LICENSE INFORMATION

LICENSES, TAGS, AND PERMITS

SALE DATES: Licenses and tags go on sale December 1 of each year, but resident tags are not available until after the deer, elk, and pronghorn controlled hunt drawings are held. All licenses are valid only for the calendar year for which they are issued.

LICENSES FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12: Children must be at least 12 years of age to purchase a hunting license valid for big game EXCEPT an 11-year-old may purchase a hunting license to apply for a controlled hunt permit provided the license is not used to hunt until the person reaches 12 years of age. All new hunters must have passed a hunter education course prior to purchasing a license if born after January 1, 1975.

A youth small game license is available for hunters aged 10 and 11, but it is not valid for big game.

HUNTER AND BOWHUNTER EDUCATION REQUIRED

- To purchase a hunting license, all hunters must show proof that they have completed a hunter education course if they were born on or after January 1, 1975, unless they previously held a hunting license from another state.
- To purchase an archery permit, all bowhunters must show proof they have completed an approved bowhunter education course or show evidence of being previously licensed for an archery-only hunt in Idaho or another state, or complete an affidavit to that effect.

These options are available for hunters to complete the hunter education requirement.

- The Hunter Education Course includes 15-17 class hours plus a 2-4 hour range and live-fire exercise. The curriculum includes training in firearms safety, basic archery safety, hunting ethics, wildlife management, conservation, survival, regulations and a final written exam.
- The Bowhunter Education Course averages 12 class hours plus a field exercise. Subjects include bowhunting equipment, techniques, safety, shot placement, ethics, treestand safety, outdoor preparedness and the state final exam.
- Independent study courses include a Workbook Option and an Internet based course for hunter education and internet-based course for bowhunter education as alternatives to the traditional classroom courses for students 10 years or older. There is a small additional cost for the Internet courses that is paid directly to the course provider. All independent study courses require the successful completion of an additional 6-7 hour scheduled field day.

Course and registration information can be found on the Hunter Education Program page of the IDFG website at http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/education/hunter_ed/ or obtained from a regional Fish and Game office (see page 3).

It is highly recommended that individuals planning to participate in fall hunts register for a course early in the year and prior to

June 30. Hunter education and bowhunter education classes are taught by volunteer instructors who, like other hunters, want to be afield early in the hunting season. The number of classes and independent study course field days available becomes very limited due to a decrease in instructor availability close to the hunting season.

Individuals with disabilities desiring to attend hunter or bowhunter education classes may request reasonable accommodations or obtain additional information by contacting the IDFG State Hunter Education Coordinator's office, 600 S. Walnut St. Boise, ID 83707, phone 208-334-3746, or toll free at 1-866-285-1544 or through the Idaho Relay Service at 1-800-377-2529 (TDD) or email: rfritz@idfg.idaho.gov.

HOW TO BUY A LICENSE: IDFG licenses, permits, and tags can be purchased at IDFG offices and license vendors throughout the state, or by telephone and internet. However, there are several items that can be purchased only at IDFG offices: Commercial licenses, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits.

How to Purchase by Credit Card: Licenses and tags may be purchased with a credit card by calling 1-800-554-8685, 1-800-824-3729, or on the Fish and Game website: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>. A service fee is added for this transaction. Residents must have an Idaho driver's license or Idaho identification card to verify residency. When purchasing licenses by telephone, the buyer, on request, will be assigned a validation number which may be used in lieu of the actual license for 14 days from the date of issue. When this number is used in lieu of the actual license, the person must carry their driver's license or identification card with them. A validation number may not be used in lieu of a tag. Purchasers must wait until tags or permits arrive.

Any license, tag, or permit that is defaced, altered, or tampered with shall be invalid from the date and time of issue. It is unlawful to use or attempt to use any license that has been defaced, tampered with, or altered.

Nonresidents: If you hunt with an outfitter in Idaho, the outfitter should purchase your tags through the "outfitter set-aside" pool of tags. No outfitter should suggest that you purchase your own tags from the general nonresident pool of tags.

REFUND POLICY: No refunds will be made on resident licenses, tags, or permits. Nonresidents: in the event of illness or injury which disables a nonresident licensee for the entire applicable hunting season; military deployment due to armed conflict; or death of the license holder or his or her parent, spouse or child; the hunting license and tags may be refunded less issuance fees and a \$50 processing fee. Tags and license must be returned with proof (death certificate, obituary, written justification by a licensed medical doctor, or copy of military orders). Hunting license fees will not be refunded after the license is used to apply for a controlled hunt or purchase a turkey, mountain lion, or bear tag. The request must be postmarked by December 31 of the year in which the license

was valid, except for “event of death” refund, which must be submitted within one year of the death.

A controlled hunt permit and tag may be made available in the same hunt for purchase by an immediate family member of a person who died prior to using his/her permit, and whose family had the fees refunded. Contact Fish and Game Licenses at (208) 334-2592.

If a refund is requested for any other reason, only the fees (not the license fee) may be refunded at the following sliding scale rate:

Postmarked: Before April 1, 75% refund.
Postmarked: April 1 through June 30, 50% refund.
Postmarked: July 1 through August 31, 25% refund.
Postmarked: September 1 through December 31, No refund.

Exchange of Deer or Elk Tags: Hunters may exchange general season elk tags for use in another zone at any IDFG office. Likewise, deer hunters may exchange a general season deer tag for another deer tag at any IDFG office. A fee of \$3.75 will be charged. Only one exchange is allowed. The exchange must be completed before the first opening date for which you are eligible to hunt with the tag you are exchanging. For any area with a quota on tags, exchanges must be made before the quota for that tag type has been sold.

Bag and Possession Limits: In any calendar year a person may harvest big game animals of a species equal in number to the valid tags held for that species. If a person is selected for a depredation hunt prior to a controlled hunt season in which they hold a tag for the same unit(s), he or she must include any animal harvested under the limit and tagging rules of the controlled hunt permit. No person may take more than one animal per year during a controlled hunt season by using both a controlled hunt permit and a depredation permit.

Closed Seasons: There is NO OPEN SEASON for caribou, bison (buffalo), grizzly bear, lynx, or wolf. With the exception of bison, these are threatened or endangered species and are protected by both state and federal laws. Please report any suspected sightings of gray wolves or lynx to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Boise at (208) 378-5243 or the nearest Idaho Fish & Game office.

Furbearers: Bobcats, badgers, raccoons, and red foxes are classified as furbearers and may be hunted or trapped only during the furbearer season. No open season exists for lynx. See upland game and trapping rules.

Hunting Hours: Big game animals may be hunted ONLY from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Possession and Sale of Wildlife Parts: Lawfully harvested wildlife parts — except edible meat from game animals — may be purchased, bartered and sold when accompanied by a written statement showing said wildlife was lawfully harvested. If black bear or mountain lion parts — excluding tanned/finished rugs or mounts — are sold or bartered, a signed written statement showing the taker's name, address, license and tag numbers, date and the location of kill must be provided to the buyer. Buyers must submit completed transaction statements to IDFG within ten (10) days of sale.

Wildlife parts legally harvested outside of Idaho may be possessed and sold in Idaho if such sale is not prohibited in Idaho or the state, province or country where harvested, or by federal law.

It is unlawful to possess any wildlife or parts that were killed, taken or obtained unlawfully.

Possession and Sale of Wildlife Found Dead:

Protected species of wildlife that have died of natural or accidental causes are generally considered property of the state and may not be possessed. However, parts of big game species —horns, antlers, elk teeth, bear and lion parts— may be recovered and possessed for personal use if said big game animal(s) died of natural causes. Lawfully recovered and possessed parts — except horns from bighorn sheep — may be sold, transferred, purchased or bartered. Wildlife that has died due to any man-inflicted cause (i.e. hit by a vehicle, poached, etc.) is not considered to have died from natural causes and is unlawful to possess.

Edible meat from game animals taken from the wild may not be purchased, bartered or sold.

Recovery, Possession and Sale of Bighorn Sheep

Horns: Horns from bighorn sheep that have died of natural causes may be recovered and possessed. All bighorn sheep horns must be presented to IDFG for marking with a permanent pin within 30 days of recovery.

It is unlawful to sell, barter or purchase sheep horns obtained under these circumstances, or to transfer ownership of recovered sheep horns without a permit from IDFG.

Predatory and Unprotected Wildlife: Coyotes, skunks, weasels, and jackrabbits are classified by Idaho law as predatory and unprotected. They may be taken in any amount year-round and at any time by holders of the appropriate valid Idaho hunting, trapping, or combination hunting and fishing licenses, provided such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances, rules, or regulations.

Protected Nongame and Threatened or Endangered Species: No person shall take or possess those species of wildlife classified as Protected Nongame or Threatened or Endangered at any time or in any manner, except as provided in Sections 36-106(e)5 and 36-1107, Idaho Code, by Commission Regulation, or IDAPA 13.01.10.100.06b. Protected Nongame status is not intended to prevent unintentional take of these species, protection of personal health and/or safety, limit property and building management, or prevent management of animals to address public health concerns or agricultural damage.

Areas Closed to Big Game Hunting:

- All state parks, EXCEPT Farragut State Park and Farragut Wildlife Management Area which has a Nov 1-Dec 1 deer archery season, and Billingsley Creek at Malad Gorge State Park, Castle Rock State Park and state land within the City of Rocks National Reserve are open to all hunting.
- A portion of the Craters of the Moon National Monument is closed to hunting. For more information visit: <http://data2.itc.nps.gov/parks/crmo/ppMaps/national%20preserve.jpg>

- Nez Perce National Historical Park in Clearwater, Idaho, and Nez Perce counties.
- Harriman State Park Wildlife Refuge.
- That portion of Ada County within Veterans Memorial Park and the area between State Highway 21, Warm Springs Avenue, and the Boise City limits.
- Yellowstone National Park in Fremont County.
- On any of those portions of state game preserves, state wildlife management areas, bird preserves, bird refuges, and bird sanctuaries for which hunting closures have been declared by legislative or commission action.
- All or portions of national wildlife refuges, EXCEPT as specified in federal regulations for individual refuges.
- All Snake River islands between Glenns Ferry bridge and Sailor Creek bridge in Elmore County.
- Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument in Twin Falls County, EXCEPT that portion within an area 50 feet in elevation above the high water level of the Snake River. The upslope area is marked by yellow fiberglass markers, and hunting is permitted downslope to the river.
- Mountain lions may not be hunted or pursued within one-half mile of any active IDFG big game feeding site.
- Black bears may not be hunted or pursued within 200 yards of the perimeter of any designated dump ground or landfill.

SPECIAL HUNTS AND PERMITS

Depredation Hunts: Special controlled hunts (not listed in these rules) are sometimes used to relieve big game damage problems on agricultural crops. If these hunts are needed, they will be held on short notice, involve small areas, and be limited to a few hunters.

How Can I Participate?

If you are an Idaho resident, with a valid hunting or combination license, fill out the form on this page and mail it to the regional office in the area(s) you are willing to hunt. You (and a partner if you like) may apply in different regions for deer, elk, and pronghorn. However, you can apply only once each year for deer, once for elk, and once for pronghorn. *(You may photocopy these forms if necessary.)*

All applications received prior to June 30 will be placed in random order. All applications received after June 30 will be placed at the end of the list in the order received. The list will be valid from July 1 to the following June 30.

What Are My Chances of Drawing A Depredation Permit?

Most regions issue only a handful of depredation permits each year. If a controlled antlerless or doe/fawn hunt is open or about to open in the depredation area, holders of those permits will be given the first option to participate in the depredation hunt. After antlerless or doe/fawn controlled hunts have ended, participants will be selected in order from the depredation hunt list. Generally, applications received after June 30 have little chance of being selected.

Landowner Appreciation Permits: You may be eligible for a Landowner Appreciation Permit if you own at least 640 acres in one hunt area that provides significant habitat values for deer, elk, or pronghorn. For further information, see the 2005 Landowner Appreciation Permit rules for deer, elk, and pronghorn or contact any department office.

2006 - 2007 DEPREDAATION HUNT APPLICATION

1st Hunter _____ Hunting license No. _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____

2nd Hunter _____ Hunting license No. _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____

I/We are applying for (check one) ☐ Deer ☐ Elk ☐ Black Bear ☐ Turkey ☐ Pronghorn Depredation Hunts

Game Management Units

Send To:

1-7, 92885 W. Kathleen Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

8, 8A, 10-19, 20 3316 - 16th Street, Lewiston, ID 83501

19A, 20A, 22-26, 31-35, 38-423101 South Powerline Road, Nampa, ID 83686

43-49, 52-57319 South 417 East, Jerome, ID 83338

66A, 68, 68A, 70-78..... 1345 Barton Road, Pocatello, ID 83204

50, 51, 58-66, 67, 69 4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls, ID 83401

21, 21A, 27-30A, 36-37A.....P.O. Box 1336, Salmon, ID 83467

Clip and mail to appropriate Regional Office, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Attn.: Depredation Hunts.

Eligible landowners need to register their land and eligible applicants prior to applying for Landowner Appreciation Permits. Land registration is done at Regional offices. Landowners only need to register their land and eligible applicants once. Applications will be accepted on or after June 15 of each year. Applications received by July 15 will be randomly drawn. Any permits left after the drawing will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Landowner Permission Hunts: Landowner permission hunts have been established by commission order to alleviate localized wildlife problems. Landowner permission permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis at Nampa, McCall, Magic Valley and headquarters IDFG offices after July 15. Any person applying for an elk or pronghorn landowner permission hunt must have a permission slip from a landowner who owns more than 159 acres in the hunt area. Permission slips must have the landowner's name, address, and signature.

Lolo Motorway Permits: A Forest Service permit is required to travel the section of the Lolo Motorway (Road 500) between Parachute Road 569 and Weitas Butte Road 557 from July 15 - October 1. Permits are not required from October 2 through July 14. No permit is needed to cross into Gravey Creek on Road 107. The permits will be required during the Lewis & Clark commemoration years (2003-2006). To apply for a permit or for more information, visit www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater, or call the Lochsa Ranger District at (208) 926-4274.

INL Elk and Pronghorn Permit: A pass is required from the IDFG office, 4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls, to hunt elk in the Lemhi, Beaverhead or Snake River Elk Zones or pronghorn in Units 51, 58, or 63 within one-half mile inside the north and east boundary of the INL which is adjacent to agricultural land. Hunting of all other species on INL land is prohibited.

Nonresident Reduced Bear and Mountain Lion Tags: In the Lolo, Selway, or Middle Fork Zone units (Units 10, 12, 16A, 17, 19, 20, 20A, 26, and 27), and in that portion of Unit 16 north of the Selway River, nonresidents may use Reduced Bear or Reduced Mountain Lion tags, available at the discounted price of \$31.75. Reduced Bear and Reduced Mountain Lion tags are valid **ONLY** in these units. *To hunt bears and lions in any other unit, hunters must purchase a regular bear or lion tag at the regular price.* **Hunters who have already purchased a bear or lion tag at the regular price will not get a refund to purchase a reduced tag.**

Second Bear and Lion Tags: Hunters may take a second black bear or mountain lion in the following units: 10, 12, 16A, 17, 19, 20, 20A, 26, 27, and that portion of Unit 16 north of the Selway River (see pages 62-69). Second bear and lion tags are valid **ONLY** in these units. Second bear and mountain lion tags will be sold at the same price as Reduced Bear and Lion tags.

Your Social Security Number is Safe: The 1998 Idaho Legislature passed the requirement that all applicants for licenses issued by the state, including hunting or fishing licenses, tags, and permits, must give their social security number in order for a license or permit to be issued. The Idaho Privacy Law protects your social security number. Your social security number is considered confidential, will not be printed on your license and **WILL NOT** be given to any private person or organization.

Mandatory Hunter Reporting Requirements: All deer, elk, and pronghorn hunters will be provided a Harvest Report Card with each tag. All hunters must complete and submit a report (by mail, fax, phone, or internet) for each tag issued within 10 days of harvest. Hunters that do not harvest are required to file a report within 10 days after the close of the hunting season.

Mandatory report cards may be mailed to Hunter Harvest Reports, P.O. Box 70007, Boise, ID 83707-0107. Internet reports may be filed under the hunting section of the Fish and Game website at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>

Prescribed Burning: Prescribed burning is the use of fire to restore forests and rangelands and improve conditions for wildlife. Prescribed fire may be planned in your hunting unit. **STAY INFORMED.** Contact your local land management agencies.

Livestock Health Certificate Requirement: Anyone bringing livestock or hunting dogs into the state of Idaho should call the Idaho Department of Agriculture (208-332-8540) for information about health certificate requirements.

Livestock Weed-Free Hay Requirement: While on National Forest Lands or Idaho Department of Fish and Game Wildlife Management Areas, anyone using pack animals or using straw in their camp must only use noxious weed-free certified hay, forage or straw. This prevents the spread of noxious weeds. To obtain an up-to-date list of local growers and vendors with noxious weed-free certified forage for sale, call the Department of Agriculture at 208-332-8592 or check their website: <http://www.idahoag.us/Categories/PlantsInsects/NoxiousWeeds/nwffs.php>.

For more information on the Noxious Weed-Free Forage certification program please visit: <http://idahoag.us/Categories/PlantsInsects/NoxiousWeeds/indexnoxweedmain.php>.

